



Habitat for Humanity
of San Antonio

VISION

“Transforming lives through a hand up, and not a hand out”

The Many Faces of Habitat:

Individuals Share Their Views About Program

Roman Luna moved into his Habitat for Humanity Home in late 2010 with this wife and three children.

Q: What does Habitat for Humanity mean to you?

A: *Habitat to me means growing communities.*

Q: What do you feel Habitat means to our community?

A: *It represents love, and the efforts of our community to be a nation, a nation of people that stand for each other and with each other as a people.*

For full Q&As, see our blog at:
<http://www.hatitatsa.org>



Luna

Moehring

James

Olson

Randy Moehring is a longtime volunteer for Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio, having served as a volunteer house leader and on weekday construction crews.

Q: What does Habitat mean to you?

A: *Habitat means an opportunity to help people, learn new skills, and make new friends along the way.*

Q: What do you feel Habitat means to our community?

A: *Habitat makes a community more stable because it gets people into their own homes and home ownership gives them a bigger stake in their neighborhood.*

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GROUND BREAKING – Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio recently broke ground on its newest community, Coleman Ridge. Construction on the subdivision near the corner of Old Pearsall Road and Loop 410 will begin in early August.

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President's Corner

HFHSA strives to be 'green'



Dennis L. Bechhold

What do you think of when you think of green?

This time of the year the word green brings to mind the beautiful trees and landscapes that dot the hillsides of South Texas.

Merriam-Webster defines the word green as “growth” or “covered by green growth or foliage.”

In its slang form, the word green means money. The word green also relates to money for us too, but not in the way you would think.

True, we always need money. We rely on donations to build our simple, decent and affordable homes. We have built more than 700 homes with gener-

ous contributions from the community. But more than that, when we think of “green,” we are thinking of ways to save our families money and in the long run, help them become successful homeowners.

Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio is proud to be included on the San Antonio Business Journal's list of San Antonio's Largest Green Residential Builders. In fact, we are ranked number 5!

Our homes are built to Energy Star, See **GREEN**.....Page 2



THANK YOU

Habitat for Humanity San Antonio thanks the following Spring & Summer house sponsors for their generous support:

Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation
H.E. B. Tournament of Champions
Bill Miller Bar-B-Q:

In honor of Louis Vance

Community Build

Agudas Achim Men's Club
Concordia Lutheran Church
Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
Temple Beth-El Brotherhood
Toyota Motor Manufacturing Plant

WORDS FROM A HOMEOWNER

Editor's note: Below is an excerpt from a speech given recently by new Habitat homeowner, Monica Martinez.

Hi, my name is Monica Martinez. I have just recently moved into my new Habitat home last month. I have been married to Robert for one year... We have three children who we're very proud of — Monique 9, Jose 7 and Alina 3. ... Since we knew we wanted to start looking for a home, we took a chance and applied for a Habitat home...



Martinez

We were both excited and nervous because we had to do construction and we didn't have any experience in that. So with a husband working full time, I was our primary sweat equity earner... I have to say my favorite part of my sweat equity hours was being on the construction site — you get to interact with so many volunteers and you get to know all your neighbors because you're working hard on each others' houses...

Throughout the sweat equity process I felt very motivated — especially since you know in the end you will own your own home. Robert and I always felt welcome and comfortable working at the site — it felt like family.

The full speech can be seen http://www.habitatsa.org/faces/words-fromhomeowners_copy1.aspx.

COMMUNITY BUILD



Volunteers work on the roof of a special "Community Build" house recently in the Palo Alto Community. Several organizations, including Concordia Lutheran Church, Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Temple Beth El Brotherhood, Agudas Achim and Toyota Motor Manufacturing Plant (TMMTX) have joined forces to fund and build the home. Volunteers with Agudas Achim and Temple Beth-El Brotherhood gathered to volunteer on Sundays, April 3, and May 1, to honor the Jewish Sabbath.

Efforts Help Habitat Families

GREENFrom page 1

Smart Energy and LEED Level 1 standards. We are constantly looking at and testing new products to make our homes as efficient as possible for our first-time homebuyers while still keeping construction costs down, allowing us to keep mortgage payments at an affordable level.

We, as well as many of our supporters, recognize the need to provide well-built, energy-efficient homes to our families. Most recently, Kohler, through its Save Water America campaign, donated enough water-saving plumbing fixtures for more than 50 HFHSA homes; and Constellation Energy, helped build 11 homes with HFHSA in early 2011 and donated funding for many of the energy efficient materials that went into those homes.

Our homeowners have worked very hard to build their homes and improve their lives. We want them to be able to afford to live in and maintain their homes for many years to come.

Energy efficient features on our homes include:

- *Insulation baffles installed along eaves for complete roof ventilation
- *Foil-back roof decking (radiant barrier)
- *Whole house air sealing for a tight building envelope

- *R-13 Wall Batt Insulation
- *R-30 Blown Ceiling Insulation
- *3/4" T&G Vapor & Moisture Barrier installed as exterior wall sheathing
- *Double Pane energy efficient aluminum windows with Low E glass to reduce solar heat gain
- *6 Panel insulated front & back doors
- *Sill Seal foam insulation under all exterior bottom plates
- *Water saving plumbing fixtures & landscaping
- *Whole house ventilation for good indoor air quality
- *Range vent-a-hood cleans and recirculates indoor air
- *Light colored roof shingles to reduce solar heat gain through the attic area
- *Continual ridge vent installed for added attic ventilation
- *Continuous vinyl soffit venting to complete attic ventilation system
- *Direct vent gas wall heater installed for comfort and energy efficiency
- *40 gallon gas energy efficient water heater installed
- *Attic access hatch sealed and insulated
- *Poly ground moisture control
- *1 1/2-foot roof overhangs along eaves to reduce solar heat gain
- *Fluorescent lighting installed in kitchen for energy efficiency

So now, when you think of the word "green" it can bring forth not only images of growth in nature, but also growth of the hard working families who are served by Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio.

Home Centers Have Deals for Spring Projects

Spring has arrived and we have some great deals for your spring projects.

Painting is a common project this time of year and all three stores have super deals on paint and sundries.

We still have a huge selection of curtains at prices way below normal retail, making it easy to change the look of a room or two without spending much money.

We also have some Scott's Bonus S Max fertilizer priced less than half of the

large retailers.

Additionally, we recently received hundreds of very attractive brand new security doors to better secure your home or rental property.

If you haven't shopped our stores recently you are missing out on some great buys.

Our Wrecking Crew is still in need of regular volunteers for deconstruction projects. The Wrecking Crew goes to homes or businesses slated for demolition or renovation and extracts fixtures that still have plenty of life left in them.

These items are taken to our stores and resold.

The donor gets a tax write-off, and saves labor and disposal costs on their project as our service is provided free of charge. Habitat makes money for our program. Perfectly reusable goods are diverted from the landfill. Everybody wins!

If you have some time to volunteer, or if you can provide a lead on a renovation project for the Wrecking Crew please call Chris Martin at 599-7109 or email him at ChrisM@habitatsa.org.

JAMES & OLSON

INTERVIEWSFrom page 1

Teresa James is a board member of Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio.

Q: What does Habitat mean to you?

A: *San Antonio Habitat is a fabulous organization whose goal is to help families build themselves up to a lifestyle that the family desires.*

Q: What do you feel Habitat means to our community?

A: *Habitat is invaluable to the community; 55+ homes per year means that more than 150 lives per year are permanently changed.*

Ken Olson is employed as Director of Program & Project Management at Citi. The company has sponsored 13 homes with Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio and will build one in late 2011.

Q: What do you feel Habitat means to our community?

A: *Habitat plays an important role in providing housing and is a stabilizing force in San Antonio. The Palo Alto subdivision is a great example. Habitat and its volunteers have built an entire community on the West side of San Antonio. Research has demonstrated the greater involvement of homeowners in the larger community.*

Q: What is your involvement with Habitat and how has it changed you?

A: *I've participated in Habitat builds with Citi as well as my church, for many years. For the last couple of years, I've been the senior lead for Citi's Habitat builds. This has allowed me to get to know the owners better and appreciate the hard work they put it to earn their homes.*

GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW COMMUNITY



NEW COMMUNITY – At top, San Antonio District 4 Councilman Philip Cortez cuts the ribbon on a sign showing the layout of HFHSA's newest community, Coleman Ridge. At left, a student performs with the Southwest High School Mariachi during the ceremony held March 24 at Miller's Pond Park and Pavilion near the site of the new community. The community is located at Old Pearsall Road and Loop 410. Construction is set to begin in the 185-home subdivision in July. HFHSA is currently building in its current community near Palo Alto College. The final homes built there will be dedicated in ceremonies on May 7 and June 11. There are 282 homes in the Palo Alto Community.



Habitat for Humanity
of San Antonio

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VISION

MAY 2011

JOSHUA BUILD – Habitat volunteers and staff, right, take a break recently during the “Joshua Build” at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. More than 30 youth and adults gathered to help build 34 wall panels – enough for one Habitat home. Below, a volunteer writes words of inspiration on one of the panels.



Calendar

MAY

- 7 House Dedication**
Saturday, 10 a.m.
Palo Alto Community, all welcome
- 12 Faith Builder's Luncheon**
Thursday, Noon-1:00 p.m.
Trinity Baptist, RSVP by May 6:
Barbara, 210-223-5203
- 18 Volunteer Orientation**
Wednesday, Noon
Habitat Office, no RSVP required
- 20 Hab-i-tour**
Friday, 1-2:00 p.m., Habitat Office
RSVP: Shelly, 223-5203

JUNE

- 7 Volunteer Orientation**

- Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.
Habitat Office, no RSVP required
- 11 House Dedication**
Saturday, 10 a.m.
Palo Alto Community, all welcome
- 15 Volunteer Orientation**
Wednesday, Noon
Habitat Office
No RSVP Required
- 17 Hab-i-tour**
Friday, 1-2:00 p.m., Habitat Office
RSVP: Shelly, 223-5203
- 17 Pack The Park**
Friday, 7:05 p.m.
Nelson W. Wolff Stadium
Call 210-223-5203 for ticket
information

VISION

newsletter of

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Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio
*is an ecumenical, Christian organization
working in partnership with God's people
in need to build simple, decent and afford-
able homes without interest or profit,
thereby witnessing God's love in action.*